

GRAND RAPIDS HERALD

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There will be snow today and colder by night, the wind becoming westerly.

NOT A SURE THING.

New York state is in the hands of the democrats in both the legislative and executive branches. The only mischief it is possible for them to commit is in the way of partisan legislation. The election of a senator to succeed Hancock will not take place until next year and then it is probable that the legislature will be republican. Considerable discussion is had over the reapportionment of the legislative districts which must follow an enumeration of the inhabitants of the state to be made every ten years. For three years, or more, the democrats have insisted that this enumeration should be made and Governor Hill while in office, actuated by partisan motives, would not permit the full spirit of the law to be carried out, and the republicans retaliating, refused to pass the necessary appropriation bill to provide funds. Now that the legislature is democratic, the tricksters of Tammany propose to force an enumeration under which the legislative and congressional districts may be so gerrymandered as to insure democratic ascendancy for some years to come. But in this undertaking they encounter an obstacle at the very threshold, for the districts cannot be fixed except upon an affirmative two-thirds vote of the legislature, and the democrats have only a narrow majority. It is probable that an enumeration will be made. When it shall be completed, if the plan of the democrats is carried out, a special session of the legislature will be necessary to apportion the districts. Not having a two-thirds majority, a gerrymander will be defeated and the matter will go over to the succeeding legislature, which is likely to be republican. For these reasons the democrats of New York are not intentionally sad.

RUSSIAN RELIEF.

In the house Wednesday a bill appropriating \$100,000 for the relief of the Russian famine sufferers was defeated. The theory upon which it was defeated is that Russia's government is too far removed from humanity to justify such relief to its starving peasants. While this reason may be good in the abstract, still the sufferers are not responsible for the tyranny, brutality and inhumanity of their rulers and that they are in dire distress is sufficient to provoke the prosperous countries of the world to relieve their necessities by generous donations. Already private charity has extended the friendly hand, and carloads of breadstuffs are now on their way to the famine-cursed districts from the Northwest. If the Russian government officials shall relax their narrow surveillance of relief shipments, and permit these donations to be distributed among the peasants such action will encourage further contributions from our overflowing warehouses and granaries. The refusal of the house to appropriate money for the reason advanced is lame and impotent. During the dark days of the rebellion Russia was one of the European countries that remained neutral and whose sympathy was with the unionists. That her system of government is repulsive and cruel; that her officials are vindictive and barbarous; all true and the world stands transfixed with astonishment that many of the horrible practices charged against the government are perpetrated—but all this only makes the reason why relief should be extended the greater. Perhaps the democrats are over-anxious to make a record for economy.

AFRAID OF THEIR OWN.

Here's the way the Chicago Herald lets the cat out of the bag. In discussing the report that the New York democrats would attempt to "Michiganize" that state by passing a duplicate of the Miner bill it inquires: "Why, with a solid democratic majority in the whole state, which will certainly secure its thirty-six electoral votes for the party's presidential candidate next November, should the district system of selecting presidential electors be adopted, when the result would be to give a portion of those electors to the republicans?" How very apt is the same question applied to Michigan. With a solid republican majority in the whole state, which will certainly elect thirteen presidential electors, why should a democratic minority be permitted to force a system upon the people under which it will be able to thwart the will of the majority and steal one or two democratic electors? If this monstrous democratic inquiry is good for Michigan, why not for Louisiana, New York and New Jersey? The democrats knowing that this measure is a bold and indefensible weapon for theft in one state where they are in a minority, like cowards, refuse to adopt it in a state where they are in a majority because they fear that republican electors will be chosen in republican congressional districts.

CROPS OF 1891.

Last year's crops of cereals were the largest, with the exception of corn, ever known in this country. The aggregates are as follows: Corn, acres, 76,334,513; bushels, 2,060,134,000; value, \$436,439,223; wheat, acres, 39,916,897; bushels, 1,170,000,000; value, \$513,475,711; oats, acres, 35,587,391; bushels, 238,394,800; value, \$222,312,267. The

aggregate of all cereals is the largest yet produced and will supply fifty-four to fifty-five bushels per unit of population. The wheat supply averages nine and four-tenths bushels to each person, against nine and two-tenths for the largest previous crop—in 1884. The average value to the farmer is 40.06 cents for corn, 85.93 cents for wheat and 31.46 cents for oats. The value of wheat is greater than in any year since 1883, that of the short crop of 1888 alone excepted. The products are, of course, in measured bushels.

CURRENCY TINKERING.

Schemes without number are launched upon congress for the improvement of our currency system. Hardly a session passes but some farmer from the west offers a bill, in the terms of which involve a complete revolution in the present system. These currency tinkers are visionary men who conceive the details of plans so impracticable and absurd as to provoke both ridicule and contempt. "Whiskers" Peffer, the great financier from Kansas, has submitted a bill providing for a new issue of currency to be used in paying universal pensions to the soldiers of the civil war. His plan is to print and issue legal tender notes on a sort of decimal schedule. They are to be of twenty-eight different denominations, from one mill to five thousand dollars, described and named as follows: "One, two, three and five mills; one, two, three and five cents; one, two, three and five dimes; one, two, three and five dollars; one, two, three and five eagles; one, two, three and five condors or hundred dollars, and one, two, three and five talents or thousand dollars, respectively." These propositions are mischievous for their tendency is to unsettle and disturb public confidence. Barring a few incongruities in our present system, which time will correct, our currency answers every demand made by the people. If it were more evenly distributed it would be better, but that it is not is owing to the individual rather than to the system of making and circulating it. Peffer's bill bids for attention, because it purports to be a pension measure, but the day is distant when the government will issue money for any class of its citizens. This measure, together with Stanford's loan bureau heresy, will sleep the sleep of death in a senate pigeon-hole.

Last September this paper published an exclusive account of the assault made by Joseph Sweeney upon a little girl in the suburbs of the city. The particulars were revolting in the extreme, but they were shorn of their offensiveness and the facts made public. All the city papers except The Evening Leader branded the story as false and sensational. A few days later Sweeney was arrested. His trial is now in progress in the superior court and every material fact published by the then Telegram-Herald has been corroborated. All this goes to show that if the people want the local news and want it reliable, THE HERALD is the only morning medium in which it can be found.

WESTERN base-ball cranks held a meeting in Chicago yesterday and attempted to organize a league to be composed of several cities in Wisconsin, Illinois, Kansas, Minnesota and Ohio. They seemed to labor under the insane delusion that Grand Rapids is anxious to join such a combination. This city has had all the base ball it will need for several years, and the cranks may proceed with their organization, counting us out.

Our Kansas school teacher attempted to subdue a big boy pupil by pointing a pistol at him. The boy walked up to the muzzle of the gun, snatched the weapon from the teacher's hand and then knocked him down and seizing a birch gad flailed him. The trustees decided that the teacher had a right to shoot the boy and to administer a fitting rebuke dismissed the boy from school.

W. H. BREAKLEY, of the Detroit Journal, has been forced in prominence by reason of the omission of his name from the list of the board of directors of Detroit's Chamber of Commerce, published in Scripps's three-headed newspaper combination. Mr. Scripps has been credited with shrewdness, but in this contemptible exhibition of petty jealousy he has exposed the ears of a full grown donkey.

SENATOR HILL was sworn in yesterday. He will undoubtedly become one of the conspicuous figures in the senate, for he has earned a reputation second to none in modern politics as a truckster and schemer, and his traits will not desert him in his new office.

JOHN L. SULLIVAN is sober again and is appearing on the stage nightly in "Honest Hearts and Willing Hands" to crowded houses. John L. knows the value of advertising, and so soon as business shall fall off, he will go on another spree.

DEATH has claimed the Khedive of Egypt through the instrumentality of the grip. The grip is no respecter of persons nor country. It levels the greatest and lowliest, whether 'neath Africa's sun or in Greenland's icy realm.

PUBLIC opinion, and by that is meant the opinion of those thrown into contact with the city director of the poor, demands that Mr. Kruse and his official acts be investigated. Will the mayor heed it?

CLEVELAND's friends are trying to persuade Hill that he would make a master stroke by aiding the former this year. David's stroke will be like that of his namesake who slew Goliath, and Grover will be the Goliath.

MARKED MEN had the unparalleled effrontery to hold-up a Chicago street

at a few evenings since. It is so strange that a Chicago street car should be motion long enough to be held-up.

ONE of the latest countries to enter the revolutionary arena is Guatemala. Rumors are rife that the people are on the verge of insurrection, but the cause for it is not stated.

MR. BRAINE'S illness was not severe. He is again at his desk attending to duty. It is suspected that the alarming reports of his sickening spell Tuesday were colored for political effect.

MAYOR UHL has had his hands full of trouble with derelict democratic officials for the year past, and it is not to be wondered at that he refuses to talk about the Kruse matter.

IT'S bad enough to be poor and needy; but the case is aggravated when an official of the city adds abuse to one's misery.

IF Mr. Kruse has any reply to make to the complaints lodged against him, the columns of THE HERALD are open for his use.

SCALL we infer from Mr. Kruse's silence that the charges made against him are true?

AMUSEMENTS.

Powers—Marlowe in "Ingomar."
A magnificent audience which filled the capacity of the theater paid a tribute to Miss Marlowe last evening. The offering was "Ingomar," a melodrama appearing as Parthenia, a personation in which she has become familiar by representation on former engagements. If there was any improvement, it was indeed in added grace, delicate composure and sweet smile. One cannot but fall in love with Miss Marlowe in this character, for the divine spark seems to inculcate at her first appearance on the stage. In many respects the sentiment in this character is idyllic. The brilliant lady was given a most appreciative attention and was complimented with many eulogies. Look out for Mr. Hanford. He is himself now a night watchman. In an Ingomar that was full of life and spirit. His was well toned and intelligently discriminative. There was indeed that earnestness about his work that shows clearly the intuition of true art, for we felt that we were looking at Ingomar. The cast was well considered, and each part was in the hands of capable and intelligent players.

General Mention.

One of the best, most natural and faithful delineations of the domestic Yankee ever seen on a Grand Rapids stage was Richard Golden's "Jed" in "Old Jed Proddy," which was seen at Powers' a few weeks since. It was worthy of rank with Jefferson's Rip and the Sellers of the late John F. Raymond. Mr. Golden will play a return engagement tomorrow evening and both play and player are deserving of a large audience.

"The Vendetta" arouses every audience which gathers in Redmond's this week to a high pitch of enthusiasm. Even at the matinees, where the attendance is chiefly ladies, applause and curtain calls are frequent. Three more performances of "The Vendetta" will be given.

One of the longest lived successes on the stage is "K. the Arabian Tricent." It is now more than twenty years old and still draws large audiences. It will be revived at Redmond's next week by Henry Chautau.

Belle Carter is proving a profitable card at Geary's museum this week, and the show in the theater is well liked. Next week we shall see Mr. Geary's stock company and a feast of novelties in the museum which ought to jam the museum afternoon and evening.

"The Howard Burlesque company" is doing well down at Smith's this week. Matinees will be in order today and tomorrow.

There is already a large sale of tickets for Max O'Rell's lecture at the Fountain street Baptist church next Monday evening. Mr. O'Rell's subject will be "America and Americans," and we will see ourselves as we appear through French eyes.

On Monday next Garvie's Specialty company, including twenty artists, will begin an engagement of one week at Smith's opera house. At the head of the company is the great Lucille. We are promised more novelties than has been seen in this theatre this season.

James M. Lathrop of Detroit, will arrive in the city next week and assume management of Powers' grand. Mr. Lathrop is a man of experience having been connected with the Detroit opera house some sixteen years. Capt. T. P. Hickey will retire. Mr. Hickey has been faithful, honest and obliging, and during his association with the theatre has made countless friends, who will hope that the change noted will not mean his departure from the city.

WOMEN OUGHT TO VOTE

According to the Y. M. C. A. Debating Society.

Last evening the Y. M. C. A. debating club discussed the resolution that the elective franchise should be granted to women. The affirmative was supported by Charles P. Benedict and C. J. Ervay, while C. Marsman and E. D'Ooge maintained the negative. The question was pretty thoroughly discussed and some sound arguments were produced on both sides. At the conclusion of the contest it was decided that the affirmative had the preponderance of argument and that women ought to have the legal right to vote at all political elections. A resolution by Edward W. D'Ooge entitled: "What Will the Poor Men Do When Women Vote?" created considerable amusement. The executive committee reported the question:

Resolved, "That the United States has been too free in granting pensions," for discussion next Thursday evening. The speakers on the affirmative will be J. Leenhouts and H. Van den Boegert and those on the negative; E. W. D'Ooge and J. E. Martin. Ed. D'Ooge was appointed critic for the next meeting.

Sons of Veterans.

The officers elect of I. B. Richardson Camp No. 14, S. of V., will be publicly installed in A. O. U. W. hall over the Star Clothing house. Monday evening, January 11, Col. Frank M. Williams will be installing officer. The public are invited.

Battery Fox Election.

Battery Fox held its annual meeting in the armory hall in the Leppig block last evening and the following officers were elected: Captain, Joseph P. Bab-

cock; Mr. Henderson, Thomas J. Taylor; second lieutenant, Charles A. Howard; board of directors, Arthur I. Stewart, John Smalley, John Mosher, Fred D. Rice, Deane's Romance, John Goldsmith. The battle was in a prosperous condition.

ELOPED FROM A CONVENT.

A Woman Claiming to Have Been a Nun Applies for a Place on the Stage.

New York, Jan. 6.—Oliver Jurgensen, manager of Gustave Frohman's enterprises, recently received a visit from a veiled woman who gave her name as Grace Hilton. She applied for a position on the stage, although admitting that she had no experience. In the course of her interview she narrated a remarkable story. A few years ago, she said, she had eloped from a convent at Holyoke, Mass., with a Dr. C. A. Barnes, who was recently sent to prison Binghamton, N. Y., for bigamy.

"Five years ago, according to her story," said Mr. Jurgensen, "Barnes was a practicing physician in Holyoke, where she was attending to her duties as a nun in a convent. Barnes was physician of good repute and was called to the convent when any of the nuns were taken ill. Miss Hilton, who says she was known as Sister Margaret, fell ill, and Dr. Barnes was summoned to attend her. He gained influence over the young nun and after her recovery succeeded in keeping up a clandestine correspondence. It finally culminated in an elopement, the love-sick nun escaping from the convent in a domestic's clothing."

The Hilton woman also told Manager Jurgensen that after Dr. Barnes took her to New York she discovered he had no money and that he had two other wives living. He had gained such a great hold on her affections that she remained with him, and he at last succeeded in persuading her to enter the fortune-telling business. The ex-nun told many queer experiences she had in duping people who came to her to have their fortunes told. Barnes finally deserted her about a year ago and married a Miss Fenton, the daughter of a Rev. Mr. Fenton of this city. The family had some money, and the daughter's portion was \$10,000. After a little time Barnes got her money, and then deserted wife and child.

The ex-nun told Manager Jurgensen that she would not apply to her people for assistance and believed that she could succeed on the stage.

KHEDIVÉ OF EGYPT DEAD.

Mohamed Tewfik Succumbs to the Influence at Cairo.
Cairo, Jan. 7.—The khedive of Egypt, who has been ill for some time with influenza, died today. The influenza developed into congestion of the lungs, with cardiac affection, and he sank rapidly.
Tewfik Pasha, or Mohammed Tewfik, khedive of Egypt, was born November 19, 1852, and was the eldest son of the late khedive, Ismail. He succeeded to the vice royalty of Egypt in June, 1879, succeeding his father, who was forced to abdicate by a decree of the Ottoman Empire. He was the sixth ruler of Egypt in the dynasty of Mohammed Ali Pasha, who was appointed viceroy or governor in 1806, and who in 1819 got the sultan, with the five great powers of Europe, to settle the hereditary principle in his own family.
Tewfik was married in 1875 to the Princess Emineh, daughter of the late El Hami Pasha. His family consists of two sons and two daughters. He behaved with noble devotedness during the outbreak of the cholera in 1883, and went personally among the sick and dying, doing all in his power to alleviate their sufferings.

TO MOVE ON CONGRESS.

Strong Influence in Favor of the Twenty-Foot Lake Channel.

CLEVELAND, Jan. 6.—The lake vessel interests will be presented to congress more forcibly this winter than ever before. The committee of the Cleveland Vessel-Owners' association, appointed to secure petitions and overtures to be placed before congress, has been more than usually successful and will go to Washington with the best inducements ever sent from the lake district. The aggregate wealth of the local positioners is far above \$25,000,000, and there is, besides, the hearty approval of the board of trade. Every city on the lakes is doing all in its power to bring influence to bear on congress to secure the passage of a bill for a twenty-foot channel. Congressman Haynes, the Ohio member of the House and member of the committee, says that the committee will be liberal in its treatment of improvements and expresses the belief that the twenty-foot channel project will go through.

THE TRADE RATS OF ARIZONA.

How They Transfer Goods from One Place to Another.

A miner near the Senator recently had a rather singular experience with trade rats, known also as mountain rats. As the nights were cold the miner took his ore sack to replenish his rather hard bed. Having neglected to come to town for several weeks, his supply of beans had given out and he had come down to a diet of straight beans. Considerably out of humor he started in to pull his bed to pieces one morning and in removing the sacks was agreeably surprised to find three pounds of beans, with a little coffee mixed, which the trade rats had brought from the Senator and stored in his bed.

The rats, says the Prescott Courier, are native Americans and very different from their imported Norway cousins. They are called trade rats because they generally leave some article in exchange for what they take away.

The miner states that he never killed a trade rat; that these rodents habitually steal from one cabin and carry their plunder into an adjoining one; that on one occasion he spilled a couple of quarts of corn on the floor of his cabin and the next morning found the rats had stored away every grain of it in a pair of saddle-bags hanging upon the wall.

He also states that the rats have thick scaly appendages about three inches in length, which they keep constantly throwing up and down, striking the floor with each downward movement with the regular measured stroke of a musical performer marking time. They carry off plugs of tobacco, tooth-brushes, combs and brushes, in fact anything which they can manage to move.

DISOBEDIENCE TO RULES.

A Case Where It Saved a Life—A Maine Boy's Escape.

"It isn't often that an operator stops to think of the message he receives or sends," said an old operator to a Detroit Free Press reporter. "They are not of a size to him. But I remember one night during the late war I felt my eyes mistle as I read the following to Senator Fessenden:

"My son is sentenced to be shot tomorrow morning at six o'clock for sleeping at his post. Will you kindly see President Lincoln at once and intercede till I can reach Washington to present evidence which will clearly prove my son's innocence?"

"I knew that if the message was compelled to wait its turn it would not reach Senator Fessenden till too late for any hope of reaching the president, to say nothing of getting a reprieve sent to the line of battle where the son was. I said to myself: Here is a human life hanging by a thread. Shall I cut the thread by letting the message take its turn? No, I couldn't. I violated the rules and telegraphed the solemn message to all the hotels in Washington till the senator was found and the message safe in his hands. Word came back that Senator Fessenden had obtained the reprieve, and I telegraphed the glad news to the poor old man up in Maine."

CHARMING ANIMALS.
An Explanation of the Power—It Is Due to Mesmerism.

Kalm mentions having seen a rattlesnake "lying at the bottom of a tree on which a squirrel was seated, fixing its eyes on the little animal, which from that moment cannot move or escape, but begins a doleful outcry, comes toward the snake, runs a little bit away, comes nearer, and is finally swallowed."

But, as if to show that this result of bewilderment is not all to be put down to the eye alone, Dr. Andrew Smith says: "I have heard of cases in which antelopes and other quadrupeds have been so bewildered by the sudden appearance of crocodiles, by the grimaces and contortions they practiced, as to be unable to fly or move from the spot toward which the crocodiles were approaching to seize them."

This power is in the human animal often developed to a very great extent, and the part the eye plays in fascinating a fellow creature by mesmerism—thus opening the way to almost infinite physical results and unending unknown depths of possibility—is decidedly great in proportion to the magnetic force of the system, or rather the mind, for which it sets.

TOO MUCH KISSING.
We Say a Woman Whose Cheeks Have Lost Their Fresh Bloom.

"Splinter of forty-five" writes to London Tid-Bits:

In my young days there was not half so much kissing as there is nowadays. Young persons who were supposed to be "courtship," as it is called, always met in the presence of their elders, and expressed sentiments of esteem with regard to one another in well chosen and appropriate language. There was none of the ostentatious kissing and embracing so prevalent at present, nor was there allowed any of the exaggerated language of affection which is now thought necessary—in fact, "courtship" was regarded as a serious prelude to the most solemn and momentous undertaking in life, and the contracting parties acted in accordance with this notion.

I am vastly annoyed when I see bits of boys and girls kissing one another and vowing never-ending love, while they are as yet not able to understand what a sea of troubles they are embarking upon.

BRASILIAN CHARACTERISTICS.
The differences in character between the people of the various sections of Brazil, a country about as big as the United States, are very marked. The south of the equator are industrious and enterprising, but the northern states, in which the heat is oppressive and the means of life can easily be got, are languid and indolent. The natural resources of the northern section of Brazil surpass those of the southern section, and yet the southerners are more prosperous than the northerners.

Big Spiders of Yucatan.
A sailor in a coasting vessel which plies between ports on the Gulf has some very interesting specimens which he secured while on the coast of Yucatan. Among them is a large jar filled with enormous spiders which, he says, are looked upon with greatest fear by the Indians of the central portion of that country, and which are undoubtedly the largest ever seen. The body of one of these spiders is fully five inches in diameter and the legs are short and thick, being especially adapted to running and climbing. They are about two inches long and are as big around as an ordinary lead pencil. The spider makes its home among the rocks and when anything approaches it rushes boldly out and makes an attack so fierce that it is almost impossible to escape it. It runs with great rapidity and climbs sticks and trees as easily as if it was on the ground.

A Clever Retort.
Sir William Fraser records a clever retort made by Lord Adolphus Fitz Clarence when in France in attendance on the queen. He met Prince de Joinville, who, as a French admiral, professed to be patriotically bellicose toward England in particular. He said to Lord Adolphus in a friendly manner: "You, my lord, and I are seamen. I have had but one dream in life—to command a small French frigate and lay me alongside of an English ship of the same strength for twenty minutes."

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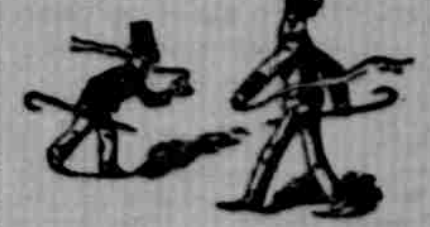
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from suit at the time. The body has been taken to the morgue.

City Editor—"Hout your sign? That's lucky. I want you to report a big society wedding in an hour. Rush around to the morgue and ask the hanger to lend you that dress suit.—New York Weekly.

These Fashionable Cases.



A tramp who was setting a dinner in the kitchen of a house where the lady herself waited on him accidentally dropped his plate, breaking it into pieces. He sent for the mistress of the house, whom he said:

"Madam, forgive me, I am a great iconoclast."

She was pleased with the word, which was new to her, and readily excused him. The next day she was calling on a friend when she remarked with much importance:

"We had an iconoclast for dinner yesterday. Did you ever see one?"

"Oh, yes," answered her friend sweetly, "we often have them for dinner, and I am very fond of them."

Then the two dear innocents smiled blandly at each other.—Detroit Free Press.

Bankruptcy and Its Consequences.
Barber (discovering a burglar in the act of opening his safe)—Stop! What is it you want here?

Burglar—Now, don't pick up a row, old man. I only wanted to see if my deposit is here all right. There's no trusting one's banker nowadays.—Lus-Fige Blatter.

At the Fair.



He—Your parents were prophetic, Miss Goodyear, when they christened you Charity.

She—Oh, no! It was because I began at home.—Life.

Unrewarded Frankness.
Father—Are your prospects good?

Suitor—Well, sir, if I were married to your daughter I can say that I wouldn't exchange them for those of any young man of my acquaintance.—Life.

An Indications Boy.
His Father—Johnny, have you cleaned up the back yard?

The Terror—Yes, pa; I wiped it up with Tommy Tucker.—New York Epoch.

A Postponed Trip.
Cable—I understand that you lost the steamer for Europe.

Stone—Yes. My wife had to go back for another hairpin.—Clook Review.

A Song of Joy.
"Brio-a-brac is going out."

—Fashion House.

Listen, housewifely, to my song,
Lead the joyful dance along.
Lift your troubled hearts from care,
Wave your dusters in the air.
No more hard-corned wages clipped
To render for treasure clipped.
Sing and dance and laugh and shout,
Brio-a-brac is going out!

Join, ye husbands